

SOLANO COUNTY

Girls' Reentry Emphasizing Assessment and Treatment (GREAT) – (\$597,411 grant)

Solano County's GREAT program is anchored in the evidence-based Functional Family Therapy (FFT) model but also incorporates additional services such as individual counseling, educational and vocational training/support, as well as substance abuse services, creating a "layer of services" to respond to the multi-faceted needs of adolescent girls in the juvenile justice system.

An essential component of the program is mental health screening for each girl immediately upon entering the Juvenile Detention Facility (approximately 200 during a 12-month period). In addition, each girl will be provided an assessment of risk, which doubles as an indicator of resiliency factors. These evaluations enable the system to make a coordinated and comprehensive treatment plan for each individual so as to respond proactively to her mental health needs, rather than react to crisis.

Approximately 80 individuals/families will receive FFT for up to 6 months through Seneca, a community-based organization providing family-focused services. A team of Clinical Social Workers (responsible for clinical interviews, initiation of services and facilitating contact w/families) and dedicated Sr. Probation Officers (responsible for initiating assessments, gathering background information/court documents, and providing intensive supervision) works together to ensure a continuum of care as well as supporting a crime-free and drug-free reentry into the community. The program will also team with a local Foster Care Officer to continue the support of treatment plans if girls are sent to placement. After successful completion of the GREAT program, participants will transfer to a less intensive probation caseload.

The Solano Probation Department is working to redesign its court reports to include mental health information as well as identifying individuals as a GREAT program participant. In addition, Probation is working with the court to develop an incentive for those individuals who progress successfully through the GREAT program, offering early termination of wardship, rather than waiting until their annual review.

Project Director: Donna Robinson, Solano County Probation Department
(707) 784-7614; dlobinson@solanocounty.com